

Winning Beginnings NY Makes Budget Request to Benefit Children from the Prenatal Period to Age 8



Winning Beginning NY is an early care and learning coalition focused on early learning, healthy children, and strong families. Children begin learning at home, and continue learning in early child care centers, schools, home-visits, and after-school care centers. In order to learn, children must be healthy: physically, mentally, and emotionally. Winning Beginning NY supports families as the foundation of children's development, and seeks to have all early care and learning programs and professionals meet quality standards.

Currently, in Rochester, less than 1/4 of eligible children and families are rewarded with child care subsidies. These subsidies help move two generations out of poverty: parents are able to work because their children are cared for adequately in an appropriate learning environment. In Rochester, and all around New York State, the need for more funding is apparent.

The Winning Beginning NY is submitting budget requests to Governor Cuomo. Contact Marsha Dumka (marsha.dumka@gmail.com) to learn how you can help advocate for young children in New York State.

Winning Beginning NY's 2015-16 Budget Requests

An Essential Foundation to the Full Continuum of Services

QUALITY

Invest \$29 million in increasing quality in early learning through implementation of a quality rating and improvement system, such as QUALITYstarsNY.

Continuum of Essential Services for Children Prenatally to 8 Years of Age

HOME VISITING

Invest \$4 million in the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program.

Maintain \$23.5 million and restore \$3.5 million for the Healthy Families New York (HFNY) program.

Invest \$2 million in evidence-based programs or promising practices.

EARLY INTERVENTION (EI)

Increase reimbursement rates by at least 5%.

Require health insurance companies to contribute to the cost of EI so that young children can receive high-quality services from qualified professionals.

CHILD CARE

Invest an additional \$100 million in child care subsidies to serve at least 13,000 children who are eligible and waiting. Continue to expand that investment to reach \$2.2 billion annually by the year 2000 to provide universal access to the estimated 305,000 children of working parents who are currently eligible for and in the need of high-quality early learning.

PRE-K

Add at least \$150 million to the Statewide Universal Full-Day Prekindergarten Program to provide upfront funding for districts outside New York City, and fully support New York City's plan to reach universal service in the 2015-16 school year.

AFTERSCHOOL

Ensure at least \$178.5 million in new funds for afterschool across the entire State.